



# FLINDERS SHIRE COUNCIL

## Annual Report 2020-2021

Adopted: 03 November 2021  
Resolution Number: 3352

*Discovery • Opportunity • Lifestyle*



# Annual Report 2020-2021

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## OUR ANNUAL REPORT

This introductory session of the 2020-2021 Annual report outline information about the Flinders Shire Council and the Shire. It gives summary to our operational and financial performance for the 2020-2021 financial year.

The Annual Report details our performance during the financial year of 2020-2021 in meeting the strategic priorities outlines in our Corporate Plan 2019-2024 and our Long Term Financial Plan.

This information is relevant to the Flinders Shire residents, ratepayers, local businesses owners, potential investors, community groups, government agencies, funding bodies, current and potential staff.

## PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

We are reporting according to Flinders Shire Council's Corporate Plan 2019-2024, which focuses on 6 Guiding Principles. Our Corporate Plan identifies our Councillor's long term vision and priority areas over a five year period.

We deliver on our priorities by implementing our Annual Operational Plan, which includes key projects and measures that directly respond to the priority areas from the Corporate Plan.

We focus on developing meaningful performance measures in all areas and creating key performance indicators at the organisational level. This will continue over the coming years as we strive to continuously improve both our internal and external reporting processes and accountability.

A performance against our 2020-2021 Operational Plan is measured against project milestones and targets set at the beginning of the financial year. The performance is reported to Council and the community on a quarterly basis.

Council produces a quarterly Operational Plan Performance Report, which provides a more detailed analysis of our performance and identifies progress on projects and performance against KPIs during the financial year.

## VISION, MISSION, VALUES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

### Our Vision

Flinders Shire – a place of discovery, opportunity and lifestyle

### Our Mission

To promote quality of life through leadership, attitude and respect

### Our Values

- A Caring Philosophy
- Pursuit of Excellence
- Teamwork
- Local Ownership
- Communication
- Leadership
- Recognition

### Our Guiding Principles

At Flinders Shire we are committed to making decisions responsibly and sustainably acting with integrity, honesty and respect.

**Our Environment** – We will provide stewardship to maintain, protect and enhance our natural environment whilst supporting new and existing industries.

**Our Resources** – We will encourage sustainable resource utilisation by providing support to businesses and their associated industries.

**Our Community** – We will work with our community to provide an appealing lifestyle with the available resources to build a healthy, happy and caring community.

**Our Economy** – We will approach all business aspects of the Shire in a manner that promotes growth and sustainability to achieve the best possible outcome.

**Our Infrastructure** – We will aim to continuously improve products, services and processes through sustainable management of Council's core assets.

**Our Governance** – We will work as a team and act with pride, accountability, transparency and integrity to deliver services to our residents.

## OUR SHIRE

### Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the:

- Traditional Owners and custodians the Yirandali people of the land within the Flinders Shire Council local government area and we pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.
- Employees within the Flinders Shire Council teams who help us to continue to improve our Shire. We appreciate the value of our employees and would like to thank them for their service.
- Many volunteers within our community who so generously give their own time and energy to enrich the lives of those around them, and make our region a great place to live and visit.

### Introduction

Flinders Shire is situated approximately half way between the cities of Townsville and Mount Isa and is named after Queensland's longest river – the Flinders River. The Flinders Shire is divided by the Flinders Highway – now known as the popular tourist drive “The Overlander’s Way”. The Flinders Highway runs east and west through the Kennedy Developmental Road – which runs north and south through the Flinders Shire. Encompassing the townships of Hughenden, Prairie, Torrens Creek and Stamford, Flinders Shire has become a major hub for transport and travellers alike. Hughenden is the main centre, situated on the Flinders River, 386km west of Townsville and 519km east of Mount Isa in north western Queensland.

As at the 2016 Census the Flinders Shire has a population of 1,569 residents. Its main industries are cattle and sheep grazing, tourism and renewable energy. The Shire has three prominent geological features: Porcupine Gorge in the north, Flinders River which winds from the White Mountains which are in the north-east through to the west of the Shire, and the Great Inland Sea. Hughenden is the centre of “Dinosaur Country”. Prehistoric finds include the great Muttaborrasaurus, Hughenden Sauropod and the Queensland Pterosaur, as well as many ammonites, molluscs and sharks teeth dating back to the Cretaceous era.

The Flinders shire includes a variety of diverse landscapes, with basalt caps and gorges to the north, desert country to the south-east and open flat black soil plains to the south and west. The Shire has four different bio-regions with ever-changing ecosystems including the Desert Uplands, Einasleigh Uplands, Mitchell Grass Downs and a small portion of Gulf Plains.

Major events held in the Flinders Shire include the Annual Hughenden Agricultural Show, Hughenden Country Music Festival, Hughenden Camp Draft, Porcupine Gorge Challenge, Hughenden Races, Rugby 7s Carnival as well as country race meetings held annually at Stamford, Prairie and Kooroorinya Falls Nature Reserve. The Shire welcomes over 18,000 visitors per year through the accredited Visitor Information Centre, The Flinders Discovery Centre.

Flinders Shire was drought declared in April 2013. An active monsoon trough and a slow-moving low pressure system over the northern tropics produced extremely heavy rainfall in tropical Queensland from late January into early February 2019. Parts of Flinders Shire had significant rainfall followed by below average temperatures and high wind conditions. The Flinders River reached major flood levels in Hughenden and other parts of the Shire several times, and damage extended to the grazing industry, small business, the not-for-profit sector and road infrastructure. Our recovery from this severe weather event is a complex task.



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## Statistics

General		Shire Controlled Roads		State Controlled Roads	
Land Area	41,199.2km <sup>2</sup>	Sealed – Rural	129 km	Sealed	584km
Population (2016 Census)	1,569	Sealed – Urban	29.58km	Gravelled	176km
Metres above sea level	324m	Gravelled – Urban	7.21km	Formed	
Rateable Valuation	\$350,648,900	Gravelled – Rural	753km	<b>Total</b>	<b>760km</b>
Net Rate Revenue (excluding other levies and charges)	\$2,336,000	Formed	1053km		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1972.39km</b>		
Total Income	\$65,167,000				
Total Expenses (includes Capital Expenses)	\$39,036,000				

## OUR COUNCIL

### Organisational Structure

Local government comprises two groups of people:

- Councillors who are elected by the community to represent them and make decisions on behalf of the community;
- Employees who are responsible for implementing those decisions.

### Executive Management Team (EMT)

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has an overall responsibility for the management of Council's operations to ensure Council objectives are met. Together with the CEO, three Directors form the executive management team to oversee and manage the operations of the organisation and provide councillors with information and advice to facilitate statutory and strategic policy decisions.

Members of the executive management team attend each Council meeting, as do other officers if required to provide additional information or clarification for Council meeting agenda reports.

Each of the directorates includes service managers, team coordinators and team leaders who have responsibility for implementing policies and directions through their respective teams.

### Elected Members

Flinders Shire Council comprising of the Mayor and 6 councillors elected to serve a four year term.

The elected body is responsible for the planning for the future of their communities and developing corporate strategic strategies and policies to achieve those plans.

Council has a duty to ensure the system of local government is accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable in accordance with the principles under the *Local Government Act (section 4(2))*.

The local government principles are:

- a) transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest; and
- b) sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services; and
- c) democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement; and
- d) good governance of, and by, local government; and
- e) ethical and legal behaviour of councillors and local government employees.

Collectively the councillors set the strategic direction for the council, identifying service standards and monitoring performance of the organisation.

## **Role of Councillors**

All councillors, including the mayor, have the same responsibilities, but the mayor has some additional responsibilities. The responsibilities of councillors include:

- ensuring the local government discharges its responsibilities under the LGA, achieves its corporate plan and complies with all applicable laws
- providing high-quality leadership to the local government and the community
- participating in local government meetings, policy development and decision making for the benefit of the local government area
- being accountable to the community for the local government's performance.

## **Role of the Mayor**

In addition to the responsibilities of all councillors, the mayor has responsibilities of:

- leading and managing meetings as chairperson, including managing the conduct of participants at the meetings
- leading, managing and providing strategic direction to the CEO to achieve the high-quality administration of the local government
- directing the CEO in accordance with a resolution, or a document adopted by resolution, of the local government
- conducting a performance appraisal of the CEO at least annually, in the way decided by the local government
- ensuring the Minister promptly receives requested information from the local government
- being a member of each local government standing committee
- representing the local government at ceremonial or civic events.



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## Councillor Portfolios and Committees

### MAYOR JANE MCNAMARA

Email: [mayor@flinders.qld.gov.au](mailto:mayor@flinders.qld.gov.au)

Mobile: 0429 417 115



#### Working Groups:

- Audit Committee (**Ex-officio**)
- Plant Committee
- Water and Major Projects Working Group (**Chair**)

#### Advisory Groups:

- Mount Isa Townsville Economic Zone (MITEZ)
- North West & Gulf Regional Roads Group (NWQRRTG)
- North West Queensland & Regional Organisation of Councils (NWQROC)
- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Authority Group (NWOQTA)
- Overlanders Way & Australia Dinosaur Trail (ADT)
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN) (**Chair**)
- Hughenden Chamber of Commerce

#### Boards & Committees:

- IQ-RAP - Vice Chair
- National Australia Day Council - Board Member
- LGAQ – District No. 11 (North West) representative on the Association's Policy Executive for 2020-2024
- LNP Local Government Policy Committee Member
- LNP Northern Development Policy Committee Member
- North West Animal Industries Recovery Working Group (NWAIR)
- Wild Dog Project Advisory Group (PAG)

### DEPUTY MAYOR KIM (CLANCY) MIDDLETON

Email: [deputymayor@flinders.qld.gov.au](mailto:deputymayor@flinders.qld.gov.au)

Mobile: 0427 411 281



#### Working Groups:

- Audit Committee
- Plant Committee
- Infrastructure and Services Working Group (**Chair**)

#### Advisory Groups:

- Mount Isa Townsville Economic Zone (MITEZ)
- North West & Gulf Regional Roads Group (NWQRRTG)
- North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (NWQROC)

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## COUNCILLOR KELLY CARTER

Email: Cr.carter@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0429 411 689

### Working Groups:

- Community Services and Wellbeing Working Group (**Chair**)

### Advisory Groups:

- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Authority Group (NWOQTA)
- Overlanders Way & Australia Dinosaur Trail (ADT)
- North Queensland Games Foundation
- Regional Arts & Development Fund (RADF)
- Hughenden Chamber of Commerce
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN)

### Boards & Committees:

- Yumba Community Cooperative Society Ltd



## COUNCILLOR CLARENCE (CLARRIE) HAYDON

Email: Cr.haydon@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0427 417 127

### Working Groups:

- Audit Committee
- Plant Committee (**Chair**)
- Water and Major Projects Working Group (**Vice Chair**)
- Infrastructure and Service Working Group (**Vice Chair**)

### Boards & Committees:

- Lake Eyre Basin
- Great Artesian Basin (GAB)
- Desert Channels Queensland
- Southern Gulf NRM



## COUNCILLOR NICOLE (NIKI) FLUTE

Email: Cr.flute@flinders.qld.gov.au

Mobile: 0428 458 564

### Working Groups:

- Community Services and Wellbeing Working Group (**Vice Chair**)

### Advisory Groups:

- North West Outback Queensland Tourism Authority Group (NWOQTA)
- Overlanders Way & Australia Dinosaur Trail (ADT)
- North Queensland Games Foundation
- Regional Arts & Development Fund (RADF)
- Hughenden Chamber of Commerce
- Hughenden District Community Advisory Network (CAN)
- Townsville Hospital and Health Service Community Advisory Council



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## COUNCILLOR ARTHUR (BILL) BODE

Email: [Cr.bode@flinders.qld.gov.au](mailto:Cr.bode@flinders.qld.gov.au)

Mobile: 0428 719 579

### Working Groups:

- Plant Committee
- Rural Services and Environmental Health Working Group (**Vice Chair**)

### Boards & Committees:

- Wild Dog Project Advisory Group (PAG)
- Agforce
- Lake Eyre Basin
- Great Artesian Basin (GAB)
- Desert Channels Queensland
- Southern Gulf NRM



## COUNCILLOR TREVOR MITCHELL

Email: [Cr.mitchell@flinders.qld.gov.au](mailto:Cr.mitchell@flinders.qld.gov.au)

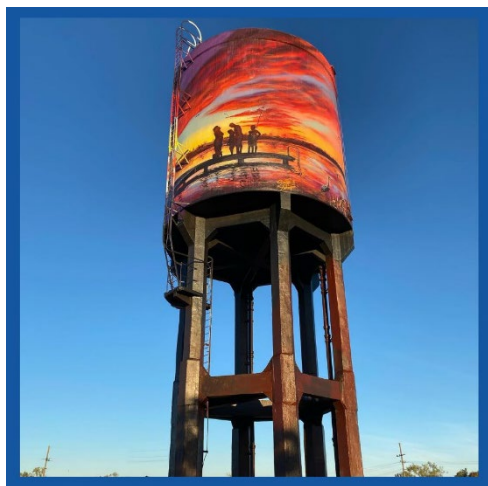
Mobile: 0458 683 402

### Working Groups:

- Rural Services and Environmental Health Working Group (**Chair**)

### Boards & Committees:

- Lake Eyre Basin
- Great Artesian Basin (GAB)
- Desert Channels Queensland
- Southern Gulf NRM



## MURAL MASTERPIECES

We're not sure if you've noticed.. but we have some new art in town! Artists Joel Fergie (The Zookeeper) and Travis Vinson (DRAPL) have recently visited us to create some amazing works of art on 2 of our Water Tanks.

### SUNSET ON MCLAREN STREET

Our McLaren Street tank has come to life showcasing a 360 degree breathtaking sunset over the Hughenden Recreational Lake. With additional details such as a family fishing on the jetty, kayakers on the lake, a farmer looking out to the horizon, our famous windmill, Comet and a quad bike, just to name a few. An amazing project delivered in just 7 days! This amazing art piece can be seen coming in from Winton and Townsville.

### LOCAL LEGENDS ON ALYSS STREET

Alyss Street brings to life a more local prospective tying in with Hughenden's own made Old Martin's Ginger Beer and Flynn's Cordial bottles. The life size image depicts a local boy playing with his toy dinosaurs. The blue sky in the mural images beautifully with the natural blue hues on the natural canvas. Coming into Hughenden from Richmond, you will see the little boy in the distance drawing you in!

This was all made possible by the grant funding Council obtained from North Queensland Primary Health Network & Queensland's TRAIC (Tackling Regional Adversity through Integrated Care) program.

Many thanks to our fabulous artists - Joel Fergie and Travis Vinson. You've created a wonderful work of art that the Flinders Shire will treasure for years to come.





### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

On behalf of your Councillors and the Executive Management Team, we are pleased to present the Flinders Shire Council 2020-2021 Annual Report.

We have witnessed another year of mixed fortunes for our graziers, with good and bad rainfall and a mixed wet season followed by multiple grasshopper plagues across much of the Shire. For the third year in a row the hoppers have turned a light-to-medium year into a drought. Only parts of the northern and eastern areas of the Shire were fortunate to have a more normal season.

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to impact our small businesses in the Flinders Shire. Fortunately, Government grants have been available for small businesses during this time. Council has finished the upgrade of shop fronts in Brodie Street and the \$5000 grant program for other shop fronts outside of Brodie Street has been continued. The tourist season has been very good due to the COVID travel restrictions impacting overseas and interstate travel. This has given a much needed boost to our town businesses.

Flinders Shire Council continues to focus on driving economic development in the Shire and the Council has invested heavily in projects to achieve this objective. A schedule of major projects undertaken and funded in the 2020-21 financial year is attached.

The primary focus for Council continues to be the diversification of industry within the Flinders Shire. Examples of projects that are being progressed in this space include:

- Hughenden Meat Processing Facility and Feedlot – Council has signed a new Development Deed with CNVM Investments Pty Ltd to progress this project.
- 15 Mile Irrigation Project – this State-coordinated Project came to fruition in early 2021 and the Flinders Magic Farm is now operational. More than 40 workers have been employed in the field during development and planting of the grape vines and are now looking after the vines and irrigation. We wish to congratulate the Marciano family for their vision and persistence to bring this venture to completion. Council has been pleased to work with the Marciano family and farm manager to assist in this first grape farm and horticulture development in the Flinders Shire.
- The Council purchased Riverside Hay Farm to secure more water licences and further develop its Horticultural Precinct and future water strategy. Your Council now owns in excess of 10,000ML of river water licences and planning is underway to deliver a very ambitious water strategy. This strategy will include development of a water storage facility and future planning for a further 4-5 horticulture farms similar to 15 Mile Stage 1.
- Flinders Shire's vision is to address our population decline through economic diversification. In early 1960's our Shire's population was 4000 and our vision is to increase our population back to 3000 from 1512.

### Financial Performance

While driving economic development is paramount, it is also critical that Council's financial management remains strong and supports the Shire's growth and development. Included in the Annual Report is a comprehensive outline of Council's financial statements for the 2020/2021 financial year.

Council is required each year to publish long term financial sustainability indicators in its Annual Report. We are pleased to report that the required reporting ratios of operating surplus, asset sustainability and net financial liabilities are all meeting the recommended targets.

Council ended the 2020/2021 Financial Year with an operating surplus of \$26.1 million. Contributing to this result was the prepayment of 2020/21 Financial Assistance Grants of \$4 million (special purpose and roads). Notwithstanding this addition, we have concluded the year in a good financial position.

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Capital expenditure of \$26.8 million was spent on new assets and asset renewals to ensure that important infrastructure will meet the future demands.

Council's Cash Reserves continue to be strong with Council ensuring that it has appropriate financial control to maintain an adequate cash balance. Our budget was drafted with future needs in mind.

It is possible that grants will not be as forthcoming in future years from State and Federal Governments and this remains a major consideration for Council. W4Q, COVID 19, Drought and Flood Grants have made a great financial contribution to the Flinders Shire financial bottom line. We thank the Queensland Government and Federal Coalition for their very generous support of Local Government since 2019.

As in past years, Council's financial sustainability depends on securing government grants and contract works, particularly from the Department of Transport and Main Roads. These two items in 2020/21 represented 86.1 per cent of Council's total operating revenues with the balance representing Council's own source revenue. This high dependence on external funding is always a risk for Council's operations should such grants and contract works not be available. Contract works from the Department of Transport and Main Roads totalled \$26.881 million this financial year compared with \$15.903 million in 2019/20. This has had a significant bearing on Council finishing the year with a sound operating result.

The 2020/2021 financial year has been an exciting and progressive year for the Flinders Shire. We extend our sincere thanks to all Councillors and staff in providing sound leadership, direction and dedication for the service to our community.

We all look forward to a very progressive and positive future for the Flinders Shire.

**Cr Jane McNamara**  
**MAYOR**

**Mr Hari Boppudi**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



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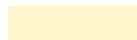
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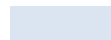
## CAPITAL AND OTHER MAJOR WORKS 2020-21

### Legend

Completed Projects



Ongoing Projects



PROJECT DESCRIPTION	FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT FUNDING / OTHER REVENUE	COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>				
15 Mile - 2.0 - Hughenden Water Strategy Stage 1	Council Funded	-	548,587	548,587
Land Purchase Lot 10 CP 888177 -Riverside Expressman Road, Hughenden	Council Funded	-	6,902,468	6,902,468
Flood Gauges - Flinders River	Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) - Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP)	139,944	-	139,944
Industrial Estate Development - Stage 2 Development (17 new lots)	Building Our Regions (Round 4) & Council Funded	1,000,000	352,392	1,352,392
<b>BUILDINGS</b>				
Flinders Sports Ground - Multipurpose Canteens	Drought Communities Program	300,000	104,843	404,843
Hughenden Racecourse - Multipurpose Canteens and other Facilities	Drought Communities Program	138,141	-	138,141
FDC - Upgrade of Flinders Discovery Centre - Stage 1	COVID-19 Works for Queensland	1,060,000	-	1,060,000
Council Buildings - New Council Chambers and Library Upgrade	Council Funded	-	250,000	250,000
Diggers Entertainment Centre - Disability Lift (Upgrade/Replacement)	Council Funded	-	56,233	56,233
Caravan Park - Purchase and Install Cabins / Workers Accommodation (20 rooms)	Council Funded	-	200,000	200,000
<b>ROADS</b>				
Digital Community Noticeboard	Council Funded	-	30,814	30,814
Shire Roads & Streets - Maintenance and Upgrades	LGGSP 2017-19, Works4Queensland & Council Funded	1,170,823	1,383,034	2,553,857



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Recreational Lake - (Footpath & Security Lights)	Local Roads Community Infrastructure Fund	648,755	-	648,755
Airport - Line Marking and Reseal	Council Funded	-	350,000	350,000
Pool - Upgrades to Chemical Shed and Salt Water System	Building Our Regions Round 5	550,000	115,312	665,312
Brodie Street Upgrade & CBD Rejuvenation Works (including CCTV & Lighting Upgrades)	Safer Communities Fund & Works4Queensland (2019-21) & Council Funded	835,000	1,068,404	1,903,404
Floodway Construction - Glentor Rd, Flinders River Crossing	Roads to Recovery, LRCI & Council Funded	945,000	333,892	1,278,892
Construction of Alderley Crossing Bridge	QRA - Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) & Council Funded	6,749,684	323,250	7,072,934
Shire Rural Roads Reseal - Old Richmond Road	Council Funded	-	63,911	63,911
Upgrade and seal 9km of Kennedy Development Road	Department of Main Roads	8,180,000	-	8,180,000
Upgrades and seal 12km of Torrens Creek - Aramac Road	Department of Main Roads	7,733,000	-	7,733,000
Upgrade and widening 8km of Hughenden - Richmond Road	Department of Main Roads	8,559,000	-	8,559,000
<b>WATER &amp; SEWERAGE</b>				
Economic Development - Hughenden Second Water Reservoir (4.7ML Tank)	LGGSP 2019-21 & Council Funded	2,867,700	1,834,425	4,702,125
Upgrades - Water mains and infrastructure (Playfoot Street and Little Avenue)	Council Funded	-	223,404	223,404
Torrens Creek Water Supply Upgrade - New Tank and Treatment System)	Council Funded	-	250,000	250,000
New Water Bores - FSC Townships	Council Funded and Funding to be confirmed	480,000	320,000	800,000
<b>PLANT</b>				
Plant & Vehicles - Purchases & Replacements	Council Funded	-	2,133,559	2,133,559
		<b>41,357,047</b>	<b>16,844,528</b>	<b>58,201,575</b>

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## BENEFICIAL ENTERPRISES AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

(Local Government Act 2009 section 41 & 45(a))

### Beneficial Enterprises

Section 41 of the Act requires that the Annual Report contain a list of all beneficial enterprises conducted during the year.

Flinders Shire Council has had **no** beneficial enterprises during 2020-2021.

### Significant Business Activities

Section 45(a) of the Act requires that the Annual Report contain a list of all the significant business activities the local government conducted during the financial year.

Flinders Shire Council conducted **no** Significant Business Activities during 2020-2021. Due to no significant business activities the competitive neutrality principle is not applicable for 2020-2021.

## SENIOR STAFF REMUNERATION

(Local Government Act 2009 section 201)

Remuneration levels for council executives take many factors into account, including work value and the complexity of the job. This ensures remuneration levels for executives are appropriate and that Council is well placed to retain and attract executives with skills necessary to help deliver value for money services to the community. In accordance with s201 of the Act, the total number of remuneration packages available to senior management during the period was:

Package Band	Number of Employees
\$100,000 to \$199,999	3
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1

Definitions as per the Local Government Act 2009:

**Senior management**, of a local government, consists of the chief executive officer and all senior executive employees of the local government.

**Senior executive employee**, of a local government, means an employee of the local government—

(a) who reports directly to the chief executive officer; and

(b) whose position ordinarily would be considered to be a senior position in the local government's corporate structure.

## GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 183)

Please see attached Flinders Shire Council's Annual Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.

## COMMUNITY FINANCIAL REPORT

(section 184 Local Government Regulation 2012)

The Community Financial Report is designed to give interested parties a better understanding of the financial performance and financial position of Council for the financial year. The information presents a summary of the financial results for the 2020-2021 year.

### Revenue

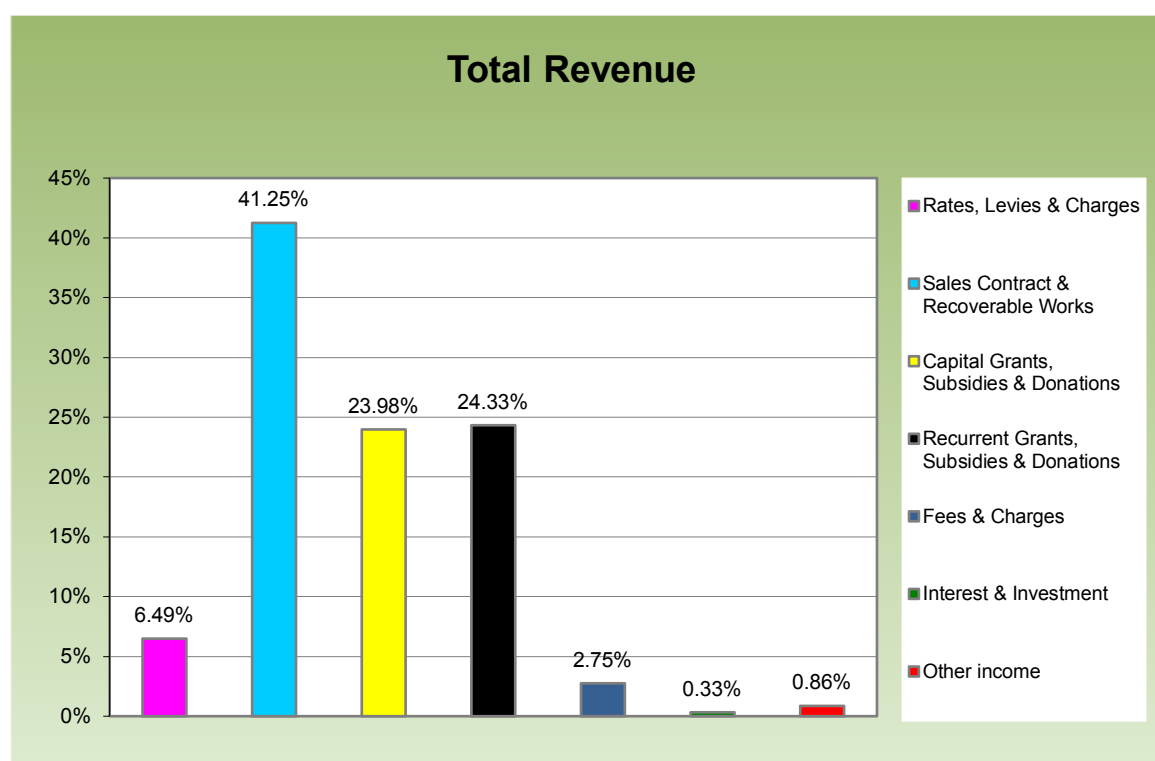
The two main categories of revenue are recurrent revenue and capital revenue. Council's recurrent revenue is money raised that is used to fund the operations of Council. Council raises recurrent revenue from income sources such as rates, levies and charges, grants, subsidies and donations, contract and recoverable works revenue, interest, fees and charges, rent and other income. Council's capital revenue is sourced for the purpose of constructing and/or reconstructing Council's assets now and into the future. Capital revenue consists of grants, subsidies and donations, as well as gains/losses on disposal of assets.

Total recurrent revenue has increased from \$38.1M in 2019-20 to \$49.6M in 2020-21. There were increases in rates relating to sales contract and recoverable works whilst rates and charges revenue slightly decreased from the previous year. Recurrent grants revenue received in 2020-21 increased from the previous year by \$933K. Sales contract and recoverable works revenue comprised 54.2% and grants, subsidies, contributions and donations were 32.0% of recurrent revenue.

It is important to note that sales contract and recoverable works revenue is almost all related to Transport and Main Roads contract works on state owned assets. An analysis of income shows these works have increased in the amount of \$11M compared to the previous financial year. Council is heavily reliant on both sales contract and recoverable works and grant revenue and although there was revenue for the year in this area the amount was still substantial.

Capital revenue of \$15.5M is considerably more than the previous year of \$4.4M. Capital revenue is sourced for the purpose of constructing assets, including upgrades and renewals.

Council's ability to raise income from rates, levies and charges is limited. The income generated from this source is 8.52% of total recurrent revenue, a decrease from 12.2% in the previous year.



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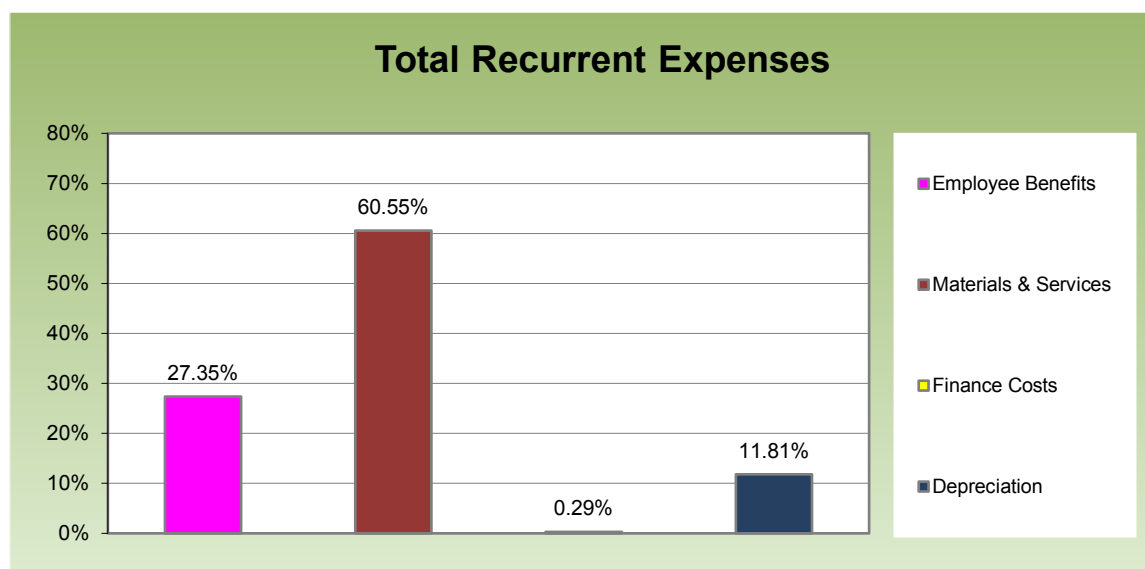
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## Expenses

Council's recurrent expenses include employee benefits, materials and services, finance costs and depreciation. These line items represent the cost to Council of providing services, operating facilities and maintaining assets.

Council's recurrent expenditure increased by \$1M compared to the previous year. This was due to the level of expenditure maintained by the Council in relation to sales contract and recoverable works, flood damage and other road construction works.



## The Statement of Financial Position

This statement is often referred to as the balance sheet and summarises the financial position of Council at the end of the financial year. The statement measures what Council owns (assets) and what Council owes (liabilities) at the end of the financial year with the difference between these two components being the net community wealth (equity of Council).

## Assets

Property plant and equipment increased by \$11.9M which is the net result of asset purchases/additions, disposals, depreciation and revaluations. Trade and other receivables increased with \$3.1M.

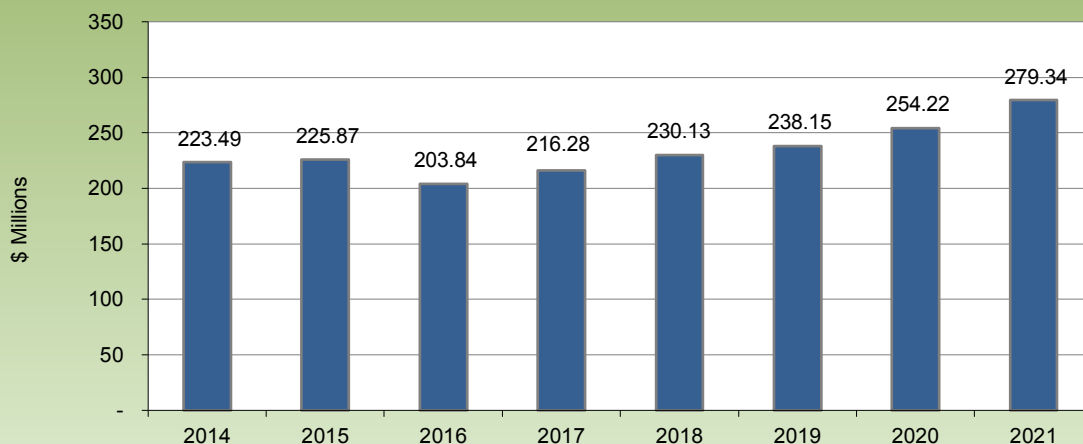
There was an increase in the cash balance of \$3M, this increase was due mainly to an increase in funding received relating to Main Roads contract works and flood damage road works.

Council had \$23.4M invested in a cash management account with Queensland Treasury Corporation. A short term deposit amounting to \$3M was also held with the National Australia Bank. Interest received on cash investments for the year was \$214K.

Property, plant and equipment is the largest asset type comprising \$230.3M. Property, plant and equipment is made up of Council asset classes including land, buildings, recreation facilities, plant and equipment, corporate and IT, road network, water network, sewer network, stormwater drainage network, waste / landfill and works in progress. Council's road network assets are the largest component of property, plant and equipment amounting to \$108.8M.



### Assets (\$m) Comparatives

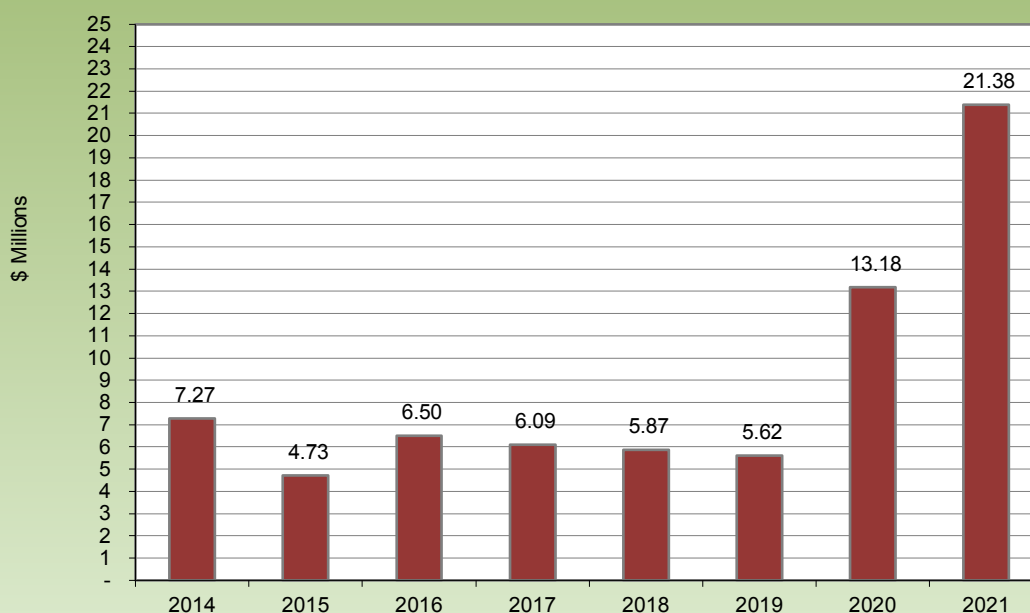


### Liabilities

Council's liabilities comprise amounts owing for provisions, borrowings, contract liabilities and trade and other payables. The provisions balance comprises employee entitlements for long service leave and the restoration of the Hughenden Landfill in future years.

Borrowings of \$9M relate to loans from Queensland Treasury Corporation and \$818K for the purchase of a water licence from the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. Loans from Queensland Treasury Corporation have been taken out to construct a new sewer network in North Hughenden, upgrade the Sewerage Treatment Plant, replace Caravan Park infrastructure, construction of a second water reservoir in Hughenden and the purchase of land described as Lot 10 on CP888177 known as Riverside Station.

### Liabilities (\$m) Comparatives



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## The Statement of Changes in Equity

Community equity is represented by Council's net worth. This is calculated by what Council own, minus what Council owes.

Total Assets \$279.4M – Total Liabilities \$21.4M = Community Equity \$258.0M

Community equity increased by \$17.0M compared to the previous year. Council's retained surplus represents amounts which have been invested into assets to provide services. The asset revaluation surplus comprises amounts representing the asset retained capital and other change in the value of Council's assets over time.

## The Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows identifies the cash received and cash spent throughout the year. The statement shows Council's ability to cover its expenditures and where those funds are derived. Council's cash balance increased in the amount of \$3.0M compared to the previous year.

Council's cash flows from operating activities incorporate the recurrent activities of Council. The cash flows from investing activities shows Council spent \$26.8M investing in property, plant and equipment. This includes capital works on Council's road network assets and other asset classes.

Cash flows from financing activities shows that Council made principal repayments of \$0.5M on all loans during the year.

## Financial Ratios

*Section 169* of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the inclusion of the relevant measures of financial sustainability. These ratios are also included in Council's long term financial plan with reviews conducted on a regular basis. The targets have been set by the Department of Local Government and Planning.

### The Operating Surplus Ratio

The operating surplus ratio measures the extent to which revenue raised (excluding capital grants and contributions) covers operational expenses.

### Net Result (excluding Capital items)

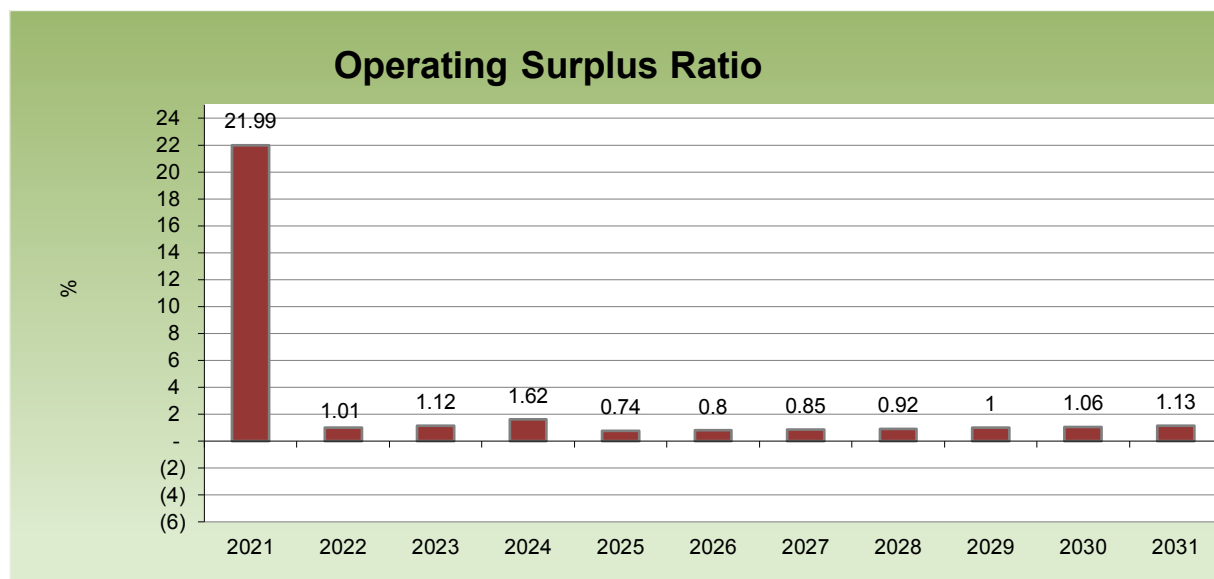
Total Operating Revenue (excluding Capital items)

The target for the operating surplus ratio is between 0 and 10%.

At the end of the financial year Council's operating surplus ratio was 21.99%.

In future years' forecasts indicate Council will operate close to break even, with small surpluses through to 2031. Council is mindful that changes can occur during the year, and Management regularly conducts reviews to ensure any budget variances are addressed as soon as possible. Council is aware of the need to conduct service level reviews to ensure operational expenses are going to be sustainable in the longer term.





## Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio measures the amount of capital expenditure on renewal of existing assets compared to the depreciation expense.

### Capital Expenditure on the replacement of Assets (Renewals) Depreciation Expense

The target for this ratio is for it to be greater than 90%.

Council's 2020-21 Asset Sustainability Ratio was 128.85%

The long term forecast indicates that Council will meet the set target in the coming years for the renewal of its infrastructure assets.



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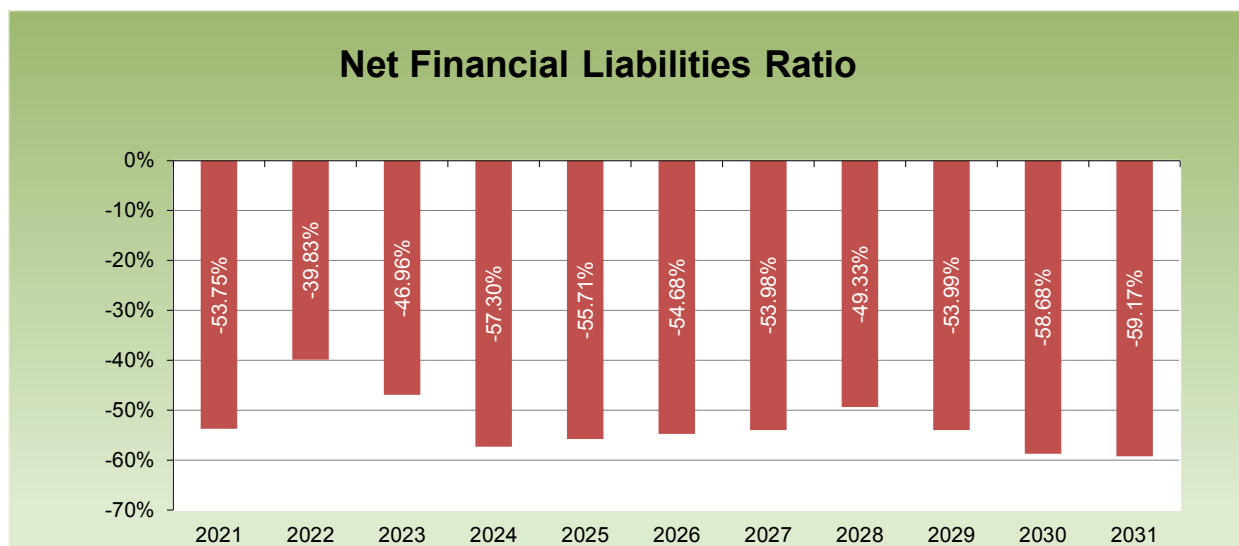


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## Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

This ratio measures the extent to which Council can fund its liabilities through its operating revenues.



## Total Liabilities less Current Assets

Total Operating Revenue (excluding Capital items)

The target for this ratio is less than 60%.

Council's current Net Financial liabilities ratio at 30 June 2020 was -53.75%.

Council borrowings at year end were of \$9.8M, trade and other payables of \$5.9M and contract liabilities of \$2.9M thus with few other liabilities the ratio is low.

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## PRATICULAR RESOLUTIONS

(Local Government Regulations 2012 section 185)

### Expenses Reimbursement Policy

#### **Councillor Expenses Reimbursement Policy:**

At July's 2020 Council Meeting council adopted changes to the policy referred to in section 250(1) of the Regulation during the 2020-2021 financial year. A copy of this policy is available on Council's website.

**2.02.06**

#### **COUNCILLOR EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT AND PROVISION OF FACILITIES POLICY**

**Background** – A review of Council's Councillor Expense Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Policy has been completed, and is presented for Council's consideration and adoption.

**Officer's Recommendation** – That in accordance with section 250 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council resolve to adopt the Councillor Expense Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Policy, as presented.

##### **Resolution No: 2928**

**Moved** Cr Arthur Bode

**Seconded**

Cr Kim Middleton

That in accordance with section 250 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council resolve to adopt the Councillor Expense Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Policy, as presented.

CARRIED

### Asset Accounting

#### **Asset and Services Management Policy:**

Council did not resolve to make any changes to the policy referred to in section 206(2) of the Regulation during the 2020-2021 financial year.

## COUNCILLORS

(Local Government Regulations 2012 section 186)

### Remuneration Schedule

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186(a))

Pursuant to Section 247 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* the following remuneration rates are set for Council.

#### **From 01 July 2020:**

*June 2020 Council Meeting - Resolution Number 2887*

*Resolution - accept the Remuneration Schedule applicable for Flinders Shire, to apply from 01 July 2020.*

Position	Annual Remuneration*	Meeting Allowance**	Total Allowance
Mayor Allowance	\$108,222.00	Nil	\$108,222.00
Deputy Mayor Allowance	\$62,435.00	Nil	\$62,435.00
Councillor Allowance	\$36,073.34	\$18,036.67	\$54,110.00

#### **From 01 July 2021:**

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## January 2021 Council Meeting

The Commission has decided not to increase the maximum remuneration levels for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors from 01 July 2021. The levels will remain as set at the amounts fixed for 01 July 2020.

Position	Annual Remuneration*	Meeting Allowance**	Total Allowance
Mayor Allowance	\$108,222.00	Nil	\$108,222.00
Deputy Mayor Allowance	\$62,435.00	Nil	\$62,435.00
Councillor Allowance	\$36,073.34	\$18,036.67	\$54,110.00

\* The allowance is paid in twelve equal instalments at the end of each calendar month.

\*\* One twelfth of the meeting allowance is paid for each monthly meeting attended.

## Councillor Remuneration, Meeting Attendance, Expenses and Facilities

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186 (b) and(c))

### Councillor remuneration and meeting attendance:

Councillor	General Meeting Attendance	Special Meeting Attendance	Annual Remuneration	Meeting Allowance	Vehicle Allowance	TOTAL
Mayor J McNamara	12	3	\$108,220.51	N/A		\$108,220.51
Deputy Mayor K Middleton	12	2	\$62,435.04	N/A	\$347.60	\$62,782.64
Cr K Carter	12	3	\$36,252.75	\$17,857.29		\$54,110.04
Cr C Haydon	12	3	\$36,252.75	\$17,857.29	\$10,143.60	\$64,253.64
Cr N Flute	12	2	\$36,252.75	\$17,857.29	\$7,591.90	\$61,701.94
Cr A Bode	12	2	\$36,252.75	\$17,857.29	\$6,007.95	\$60,117.99
Cr T Mitchell	12	3	\$36,252.75	\$17,857.29		\$54,110.04

### Superannuation:

That pursuant to Section 226 of the *Local Government Act 2009* **no** voluntary superannuation payments be made to Councillors.

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## Other Expenses Incurred:

Councillor	Travel Expenses (Accom, Meals, Flights, ect)	Registrations	iPad Allowance	Uniforms	TOTAL
Mayor J McNamara	\$3,252.70		\$227.88	\$63.50	<b>\$3,544.08</b>
Deputy Mayor K Middleton	\$1,675.00	\$1,567.80	\$227.88	\$175.30	<b>\$3,645.98</b>
Cr K Carter			\$228.48	\$63.50	<b>\$291.98</b>
Cr C Haydon			\$227.88	\$175.30	<b>\$403.18</b>
Cr N Flute	\$1,617.50		\$227.88	\$254.00	<b>\$2,099.38</b>
Cr A Bode	\$829.00	\$1,567.80	\$228.00	\$175.30	<b>\$2,800.10</b>
Cr T Mitchell			\$227.88	\$175.30	<b>\$403.18</b>

## Facilities Provided:

<p>The Mayor was provided with the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Laptop – Office Use Only</li> <li>Printers – Office Use Only</li> <li>iPad Pro</li> <li>Car</li> </ul>	<p>All Councillors were provided with the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iPad Pro</li> </ul>
---	---

## Conduct and Performance of Councillors

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 186 (d), (e), (f))

Legislation	Description	Number
186 (d) (i)	The total number of orders made under section 150I(2) of the Act ( <i>Chairperson may deal with unsuitable meeting conduct</i> )	Nil
186 (d) (ii)	The total number of orders made under section 150AH(1) of the Act ( <i>Disciplinary action against councillor</i> )	Nil
186 (d) (iii)	The total number of decisions, orders and recommendations made under section 150AR(1) of the Act ( <i>Disciplinary action against councillor</i> )	Nil
186 (e) (i)	The name of each councillor for whom a decision, order or recommendation mentioned in paragraph (d) was made	N/A
186 (e) (ii)	A description of the unsuitable meeting conduct, inappropriate conduct or misconduct engaged in by each of the councillors	N/A
186 (e) (iii)	A summary of the decision, order or recommendation made for each councillor	N/A
186 (f) (i)	The number of complaints referred to the assessor under section 150P(2)(a) of the Act by local government entities for the local government	1
186 (f) (ii)	The number of matters, mentioned in section 150P(3) of the Act, notified to the Crime and Corruption Commission ( <i>Complaints about councillor conduct must be referred to assessor</i> )	1

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186 (f) (iii)	The number of notices given under section 150R(2) of the Act ( <i>Local government official must notify assessor about particular conduct</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (iv)	The number of notices given under section 150S(2)(a) of the Act ( <i>Local government must notify assessor about misconduct</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (v)	The number of decisions made under section 150W(a), (b) and (d) of the Act ( <i>Decision about conduct</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (vi)	The number of referral notices accompanied by a recommendation mentioned in section 150AC(3)(a) of the Act ( <i>Referral of suspected inappropriate conduct</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (vii)	The number of occasions information was given under section 150AF(4)(a) of the Act ( <i>Investigating suspected inappropriate conduct</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (viii)	The number of occasions the local government asked another entity to investigate, under chapter 5A, part 3, division 5 of the Act for the local government, the suspected inappropriate conduct of a councillor ( <i>Referral of conduct to local government</i> )	Nil
186 (f) (ix)	The number of applications heard by the conduct tribunal about the alleged misconduct of a councillor	Nil

## ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION COMPLAINTS

(*Local Government Regulations 2012 section 187*)

The following is a brief summary of the Council adopted policy "Complaints Management Policy".

**Objective:** The role of Council is to provide open and accountable local government. An effective and transparent method of responding to complaints regarding its services, administrative actions, competitive neutrality, the conduct and performance of councillors and staff behaviour and misconduct better enables council to undertake this role.

**Principles:** Council is committed to a complaints management process which ensures the transparent, effective and timely resolution of complaints.

**Scope:** This policy has been established to provide a clear administrative method of handling and resolving of all complaints made by affected persons

Legislation	Description	Number
187 (2)(a)(i)	Number of administrative complaints made to the local government during 2020-2021	9
187 (2)(a)(ii)	Number of administrative complaints resolved by the local government under the complaints management process during 2020-2021	9
187 (2)(a) (iii)	Number of administrative action complaints not resolved by the local government under the complaints management process 2020-2021	N/A
187 (2)(b)	Number of administrative action complaints not resolved by the local government under the complaints management process that were made in the previous financial year 2019-2020	Nil



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## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 188)

During the 2020-2021 period there was **no** overseas trips undertaken, in an official capacity, by a Councillor or Council employee or representative.

## EXPENDITURE ON GRANTS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 189)

Council is required under Section 189 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to provide a summary of the expenditure for the Financial Year on grants to community organisations and from each Councillor's discretionary funds.

Council provides assistance to community organisations by way of grants, sponsorship or donations.

### Councillor's Discretionary Fund

In accordance with s189, the Annual Report must contain a summary of the expenditure from each Councillor's discretionary fund. Flinders Shire does not have discretionary funds and therefore there is **no** report for 2020-2021 for the purpose of allocation as community grants.

### Regional Arts Development Fund\*

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
	Community Rounds to be allocated	Funding Pool Available \$10,000.00 Money from 19/20 was rolled over into 20/21
	Community Rounds to be allocated	Funding Pool Available \$10,000.00
Hughenden Kindergarten and Early Childhood Centre	Shipping Container Cultural Mural (rolled over from 2019/2020)	\$5,960.00
Hughenden Country Music Association	Professional Attendance & Skills Development	\$10,000.00
Hughenden Gymnastic Club Inc	Flip Side Circus Hughenden	\$4,800.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$20,760.00</b>

\*RADF Year runs from 01 September – 31 August

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## Community Grant - Facility and Equipment

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Projects – July to December 2020		
Projects – January to June 2021		
Hughenden Kindergarten and Early Childhood Centre	Skirting replacement	\$687.50
St Vincent De Paul – Hughenden	Replacement of external doors	\$4,751.00
TOTAL		\$5,438.50

## Community Sponsorship – Event Support

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Events - July to December 2020 (Note: Less events proceeded due to COVID 19 Restrictions. Events given flexibility on date delivery if within calendar year)		
Hughenden Railway Social Club	Christmas Tree Party	\$2,000.00
Hughenden Bowls Club	Flinders Triples Competition	\$2,000.00
Events – January to June 2021		
Hughenden Jockey Club	Hughenden Bracelet Races	\$2,000.00
Campdraft 4 A Cause Inc.	Campdraft 4 A Cause	\$2,000.00
Hughenden Golf Club	Hughenden Golf Club Championships	\$2,000.00
RSL – Hughenden Branch	ANZAC Day Memorial Services and Diggers Games	\$1,000.00
Hughenden State School P & C Association	Hughenden State School Fete	\$2,000.00
Hughenden Show Society	Hughenden Show	\$2,000.00
Hughenden Bulls Rugby League Football Club	Local Games and Away Travel	\$2,000.00
TOTAL		\$17,000.00

## Community Sponsorship – Event Development

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
Events – January to June 2021		
Hughenden State School P & C Association	Hughenden State School Fete – Fireworks	\$3,300.00
TOTAL		\$3,300.00

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## Shopfront Improvement Stream

Business	Purpose	Amount
The Exchange Hotel Torrens Creek	Exterior Painting	\$5,000.00
Holden's Bakery	New signage, exterior painting, façade work and installation of display screen in front window	\$5,000.00
Payne Plumbing & Accounting	Exterior painting, install new entrance door and install concrete pathway to building	\$4,413.00
Laundromat and Windmill Inn Café	Exterior Painting, Install new doors at both businesses and new signage for Laundromat	\$4,655.25
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$19,068.25</b>

## Quick Response Stream - Donations

Community Group	Purpose	Amount
<b>Events – July to December 2020</b> (Note: Due to COVID-19 lock downs and restrictions, community groups were given the opportunity to apply for a one-off COVID-19 Donation to financially support them with the COVID-19 financial burdens)		
Hughenden Kindergarten and Early Childhood Centre	Ongoing operational costs – Installation of extra washing facility.	\$500.00
Hughenden Netball Association	Ongoing operational costs – Junior Netball season continuation.	\$500.00
Flinders Horse Sports	Ongoing operational costs – Rates and electricity.	\$500.00
Hughenden Campdraft Association	Ongoing operational costs – ACA membership and Insurance.	\$500.00
Hughenden Touch Club	Ongoing operational costs – Purchase of COVID signage and extra cleaning supplies.	\$500.00
Hughenden Town and Country Club	Ongoing operational costs – Insurance.	\$500.00
St Vincent De Paul - Hughenden	Ongoing operational costs.	\$500.00
Sacred Heart Parish Hughenden	Ongoing operational costs – Rates.	\$500.00
Flinders River Roping	Ongoing operational costs – Audit payment.	\$500.00
Hughenden Golf Club	Ongoing operational costs – Extra cleaning supplies.	\$500.00
Hughenden Country Music Association	Ongoing operational costs – Insurance.	\$500.00
Hughenden Bowls Club	Ongoing operational costs – Extra cleaning supplies.	\$500.00
<b>Events – January to June 2021</b>		
Flinders Horse Sports	Meet Your Mates Workshop	\$500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$6,500.00</b>

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## Quick Response Stream – Contribution for Sporting Excellence

Name	Purpose	Amount
Events – July to December 2020		
Danielle Sladden	Queensland School Sport 16 – 19yrs Netball State Championships	\$450.00
Jessica Benham	Queensland School Sport 13 -15yrs Netball State Championships	\$450.00
Events – January to June 2021		
Jessica Benham	Queensland School Sport 16 – 19yrs Netball State Championships	\$500.00
Bronte Johnstone	Queensland School Sport 10 - 12yrs Netball State Championships	\$500.00
TOTAL		\$,1900.00

## In-Kind Support

Nil

## OTHER CONTENTS

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190)*

### Corporate and Operational Plans

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(a)(b))*

Council is required to adopt a Corporate Plan to guide Council's decision making. This document establishes the framework and identifies goals, objectives and strategies to be pursued by Council to meet the aspirations and needs of the community. The plan is developed in consultation with the community and can be revised at any time during the life of the plan to ensure council is following its strategic direction.

The Operational Plan is prepared annually and outlines Council's work program for the next financial year including costs and completion timelines. This document is subject to quarterly reviews and must be consistent with the Council's Corporate Plan.

In accordance with legislative requirements, Council reviewed the operational plan on four occasions relevant to the financial period and on each occasion Council considered an assessment of its progress in the implementation of the operational plan as being satisfactory. Council receives a written assessment of the implementation of the operational plan at the end of each quarter.

Council's Corporate Plan, Operation Plan and Quarterly Reports on the Operational Plan can be found on Council's website [www.flinders.qld.gov.au](http://www.flinders.qld.gov.au).

### Commercial Business

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(c))*

In accordance with s190 (1) of the regulation Council must provide an annual operations report for each commercial business unit. Council had **no** commercial business units over the course of the 2020-2021 year.

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## Joint Government Activities

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(d)(i))

As required by s190 of the Regulation, Council must outline details on any action taken for, and expenditure on, a service, facility or activity supplied by another local government under an agreement for conducting a joint government activity. **No** joint activities were undertaken for the financial year ending 30 June 2021.

## Details of Special Rates and Charges

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(d)(ii))

In accordance with s190 of the regulation, Flinders Shire Council levies a special rates and charges for Wild Dog Control applicable to Rate Code 4 – Rural Categories only.

## Contracts

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(e))

As required by s190 of the Regulation, the number of invitations to change tenders under s228(7) during the 2020-2021 financial year was **zero**.

## Registers and Public Documents

(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(f))

Item	Description	Access
Councillor Register of Interest	To record certain financial and other personal interests of relevant individuals.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Register of personal interest of Chief Executive Officer and other specified employees	To record certain financial and other personal interests of the Chief Executive Officer and certain other employees.	Available only to Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer or a person permitted by law
Councillor's Material Personal Interest	A record of when a councillor identifies that they have, or may be perceived to have, a 'material personal interest' the councillor is required to disclose the interest and leave the meeting for consideration of the relevant matter.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Councillor's Conflict of Interest	A record of when a councillor identifies that they may have or may be perceived to have a 'conflict of interest'; the councillor is required to disclose the interest to council. Where the other councillors determine, by vote, that a conflict of interest does exist, they must direct that councillor to leave the meeting.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Conflict of Interest Register & Material Personal Interest Register for Executive Staff	To record any interests that an executive staff member has declared in Council Meeting.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website

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Delegations Register	To record all delegations / authorisations made during Council Meetings.	Councillor's interests are available on Council's website
Register of Delegations of Authority by Council	To record all powers delegated by the Local Government or the Chief Executive Officer's delegated powers.	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Delegations of Authority by the CEO	To record all powers delegated by the CEO	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Local Laws	To record all local laws set by Council	Available on Council's website
Register of Regulatory Fees and Charges	To record all charges levied by Council	Available on Council's website
Register of Policies	To record the current policies as set by Council	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Register of Roads	To record the details of the shire roads	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Contract Register	To record the details of all Tenders over \$200,000	Available on Council's website
Cemetery Register	To record all burial sites	Available on Council's website
Building Application Register	To record the details of all applications	Available for viewing by members of the public on request
Corporate & Operational Plan	To document the goals and strategies set by Council for the period specified in each plan	Available on Council's website
Annual Report	To document the financial position and report on attainment of goals specified in the Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.	Available on Council's website

Council also makes available other information, including copies of Minutes of Council Meetings on the website [www.flinders.qld.gov.au](http://www.flinders.qld.gov.au)

## Concessions for Rates and Charges Granted by Council

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(g))*

### **Rating Rebates and Concessions**

Flinders Shire has a policy with reference to rebate concessions, as detailed below:

#### **Pensioner Rate Concessions Policy**

Council continued its current Pensioner Rate Concession policy. This policy provided a 50 per cent concession to ratepayers in a residential category on General, Garbage, Sewerage and Water Rates up to a maximum of \$500.00 per year for all eligible pensioners. A copy of Council's Pensioner Rate Concession Policy is available at the Shire Office.



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## Internal Audit

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(h))*

Flinders Shire Council has established an internal audit function in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012. The Audit Committee is an advisory committee and the objectives of the Audit Committee are to provide advice to Council on audit matters and provide oversight of the Internal Audit process.

As provided under the Audit Committee Charter, the Audit Committee will review the following and make recommendations to Council:

- Internal Audit Plan and how that plan relates to the risks identified in Council's Risk Registers;
- Progress on matters raised in the internal audit reports;
- Matters raised by the Queensland Audit Office audit and resolution of those matters;
- Draft financial statements before adoption by Council
- The financial implications of the Council's financial position;
- The trend indicated in the Financial Sustainability Statement;
- Implications of the budget on the long term financial sustainability of the Council;
- The process of risk identification, assessment and treatment;
- Matters identified as being outside of the scope of the current internal audit plan that have or
- have the potential to create additional risk for Council.

During the 2020-21 financial year the Audit Committee met on 5 August 2020 and 20 October 2020. The Committee considered and recommended to Council the adoption of the 2019-20 Financial Statements at its meeting held on 20 October 2020.

Council's Independent Chair of the Audit Committee is Mr Brendan Macrae B.Comm AMIIA FCPA and Council's Internal Auditors are Pacifica Chartered Accountants, Cairns.

## Competitive Neutrality

*(Local Government Regulation 2012 section 190(1)(i)(j))*

In accordance with s49 of the regulation, there were **no** investigation notices for competitive neutrality complaints nor were there any required responses to the Queensland Competition Authority.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

### Annual Financial Statements

Please see attached Flinders Shire Council's Annual Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.